

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to require its stations to show an anti-Kerry documentary just two-weeks before the election violates its pledge to serve the public interest. As a user of free public airwaves, Sinclair's first obligation is to serve the public, not the corporate owners' or management's political agenda.

I've heard a company spokesperson say Kerry has been invited to appear on the program to try to make it appear as if this is a legitimate news story. However, it still doesn't pass the smell test, especially considering Sinclair's past actions, including its decision to black-out Nightline's special honoring those who died in Iraq. This is clearly a partisan attempt to smear a presidential candidate, which violates FCC rules. This blatant disregard of the spirit, if not the letter of the law, shows how media consolidation enables corporations to attempt to manipulate the democratic process for their own gain.

If Sinclair insists on showing this documentary, the least it should be required to do is to show the other side of Kerry's Vietnam experience, which has been explored in the documentary, Going Upriver.

Thank you,
Melany Klinck